UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/CONF.157/PC/43
3 September 1992

Original: ENGLISH

WORLD CONFERENCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Preparatory Committee
Third session
Geneva, 14-18 September 1992
Item 10 of the provisional agenda

OTHER MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

Report of the Secretary-General

1. In its resolution 46/116, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report to the Preparatory Committee on progress made on meetings that have been organized under the auspices of the United Nations programme pursuant to General Assembly resolution 45/155.

2. The present report contains a list of meetings, those organized by the Centre for Human Rights and those held by intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to which the Centre for Human Rights has been invited, of direct concern to the preparatory process for the World Conference. It includes both meetings which have already been held in accordance with the mandate set up by the General Assembly and meetings which are scheduled to be held.

3. Meetings which have already been held for the purposes of the World Conference include, in chronological order:

(a) World Congress on Human Rights (New Delhi, December 1990). The report of the congress was submitted by the International Service for Human Rights, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, and is available in document A/CONF.157/PC/6/Add.7/Rev.1.

GE.92-13917/0798K (E)

(b) Nordic Seminar on Human Rights (Laugarvatn, Iceland, 9-10 June 1991). The seminar was organized by the Nordic Institutes of Human Rights. The report was submitted by the Government of Iceland and is available in document A/CONF.157/PC/7;

(c) Training Course on the Handling of Human Rights Information and Documentation for Library Staff (Geneva, October 1991). The course was organized by the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law of Lund, Sweden, and co-sponsored by the United Nations Library at Geneva and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in cooperation with several intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. The report of the training course will be published by the Centre for Human Rights in 1992;

(d) International Workshop on National Institutions for the promotion and Protection of Human Rights (Paris, 7-9 October 1991). The workshop was held at the invitation of the Government of France and in cooperation with the French National Consultative Commission on Human Rights. The report of the workshop is available in document E/CN.4/1992/43 and Add.1 and 2;

(e) Regional Seminar of Experts on Human Rights, Democracy, and Economic and Social Development (Santiago de Chile, 10-13 December 1991). The seminar was organized by the Centre for Human Rights at the invitation of the Government of Chile. The report of the Seminar will be issued as a publication of the Centre;

(f) European Conference on International Human Rights Standards (Barcelona, Spain, 13-17 January 1992). The report of the conference, which was co-sponsored by the Centre for Human Rights, the City of Barcelona and the United Nations Association of Spain, is a forthcoming publication of the Centre for Human Rights;

(g) Workshop on Global Strategies for Achieving Fairness in the Courts: Domestic Violence (Geneva, 5 February 1992). The workshop was organized by the University of Calgary (see document A/CONF.137/PC/32);

(h) Seminar on Academic Freedom (Lund, Sweden, 9-11 March 1992), in connection with the UNESCO Conference on Human Rights and Democracy, to be held in Montreal, Canada, in February 1993. The seminar was organized by the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law and co-sponsored by UNESCO, the Standing Conference of Rectors, Presidents and Vice-Chancellors of the European Universities, and the World University Service. The report has been published by the Raoul Wallenberg Institute;

(i) International Conference on Academic Freedom and University Autonomy (Sinaia, Romania, 5-7 May 1992), in connection with the UNESCO Conference on Human Rights and Democracy, to be held in Montreal, Canada, in Febraury 1993. The conference was co-sponsored by the UNESCO European Centre for Higher Education of the Romanian National Commission for UNESCO and the National Rectors' Conference of Romania in cooperation with the Standing Conference of Rectors, Presidents and Vice-Chancellors of the European Universities and the Council of Europe. A report of the conference has been published by the UNESCO European Centre for Higher Education;

(j) Technical Conference on Practical Experience in the Realization of Sustainable and Environmentally Sound Self-Development by Indigenous Peoples (Santiago de Chile, 18-22 May 1992). The conference was organized by the Centre for Human Rights at the invitation of the Government of Chile. The report of the conference is available in document E/CN.4/Sub.2/1992/31 and Add.1;

(k) Conference on Regional Systems of Human Rights Protection in Africa, America and Europe (Strasbourg, France, 15-19 June 1992). The conference was organized by the Friedrich-Naumann Stiftung of Germany in cooperation with the European Commission on Human Rights. The report of the conference is a publication of the Friedrich-Naumann Stiftung;

(l) Conference on the Role of Voluntary Organizations in Emerging Democracies: Experience and Strategies in Eastern and Central Europe and in southern Africa (Prague, 22-24 June 1992). The conference was co-sponsored by the Danish Centre for Human Rights and the Institute of International Education;

(m) Asia-Pacific Human Rights Conference (Osaka, Japan, 22-26 June 1992). This conference was sponsored by the Buraku Liberation Research Institute. The report of the conference was prepared by the Centre for Human Rights and is available in document A/CONF.157/PC/46/Add.1;

(n) Conference on the Media and Human Rights (Sintra, Portugal, 29 June-5 July 1992). The conference was hosted by the International Academy for Development in Freedom;

(o) Meeting on the Role of Medical Ethics in the Protection of Human Rights (London, 5-7 July 1992). The meeting was organized by the Steering Group of the Commonwealth Medical Association. The report of the meeting has been prepared by the Centre for Human Rights and is available in document A/CONF.157/PC/46.

4. Meetings for the purposes of the preparatory process for the World Conference which are being planned or to which invitations have been received include, in chronological order:

(a) Consultation on Women's International Human Rights (Toronto, Canada, 31 August-2 September 1992). The meeting will be organized by the North-South Institute, the Faculty of Law of the University of Toronto and other organizations concerned with women's rights;

(b) Linking Hands for Changing Laws: Women's Rights as Human Rights Around the World (Toronto, Canada, 2-4 September 1992). This meeting will be co-sponsored by the North-South Institute and the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development;

(c) Third International Dialogue on the Transition to Global Society: the Transition to a Just Society (Landegg Academy, Wienacht, Switzerland, 7-12 September 1992). The dialogue is co-sponsored by a number of non-governmental organizations, including the Baha'i International Community,

Human Rights Advocates, the Institute of International Education, the International Council of Women and the International Foundation for the Survival and Development of Humanity;

(d) A meeting of Attorneys-General and/or Ministers of Justice of East African countries in preparation for the African regional meeting is to be organized by Mr. S.A. Wako, Attorney-General of Kenya, in Nairobi, in October 1992;

(e) Commonwealth Workshop on National Human Rights Institutions (Ottawa, Canada, 30 September-2 October 1992). The workshop will be hosted by the North-South Institute;

(f) A Commonwealth "Brainstorming" on the World Conference is tentatively scheduled to take palce in London in September 1992, organized by the Commonwealth Secretariat;

(g) Asia-Pacific Regional Conference of Peoples' Organizations on the Right to Development, tentatively scheduled to be held in October 1992. The conference is sponsored by the Institute for Human Rights, Environment and Development;

(h) Human Rights in the Mediterranean Region (Messina, Italy, October/November 1992). This meeting will be sponsored by the International Centre for Sociological, Penal and Penitentiary Research;

(i) First International Colloquium on Human Rights in La Laguna: The Reform of International Institutions for the Protection of Human Rights (La Laguna, Tenerife, Spain, 1-4 November 1992). The Colloquium will be co-sponsored by UNESCO and the University of La Laguna;

(j) ILO Workshop on Children in Bondage (Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Thailand) (Islamabad, 23-27 November 1992);

(k) Democratization and Human Rights. This meeting, sponsored by the Government of Mozambique, is scheduled to take place in November/December 1992 in Maputo;

(l) Sub-Regional Workshop on the Role and Contribution of Regional and National Institutions towards the Effective Realization of Human Rights, Democracy and Development. The workshop is scheduled to be held in Yaounde in 1992.

(m) A human rights workshop/seminar on the World Conference is tentatively scheduled to take place in India in December 1992, co-sponsored by the Indian Ministry of Foreign Affairs;

(n) A Council of Europe/CSCE meeting on human rights is scheduled to be held in Strasbourg, France, in January 1993;

(o) A Nordic seminar on human rights, to be convened by the Nordic Institutes of Human Rights, is tentatively scheduled to take place in Lund, Sweden, in January 1993;

(p) An academic conference on human rights, to be held by the American Society of International Law, is tentatively scheduled for February/March 1993 at the campus of the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, United States of America;

(q) Conference on Human Rights Education and Democracy (Montreal, Canada, February 1993). This Conference, which will be convened by UNESCO, is preceded by the following meetings:

(i) Seminar on Academic Freedom (Lund, Sweden, 9-11 March 1992) (see 3 (h) above);

(ii) International Conference on Academic Freedom and University Autonomy (Sinaia, Romania, 5-7 May 1992) (see 3 (i) above);

(iii) An expert meeting on academic freedom will take place at the Human Rights Centre in Poznan, Poland, in November 1992;

(r) A meeting on the establishment of an international criminal court as a means of protecting human rights is tentatively scheduled to be held from 2-4 December 1992, co-sponsored by the International Institute of Penal Law and the International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences;

(s) A human rights conference is tentatively scheduled to be organized by Mr. Muzaffar of the National Consciousness Movement in Kuala Lumpur in January 1993;

(t) A workshop entitled "Private Violence/Public Policy: Violence Against Women on the Agenda", co-sponsored by the North-South Institute and United Nations Development Fund for Women, is schedueld to be held in the Netherlands in April 1993;

(u) A meeting entitled "Parliament: Guardian of Human Rights", co-sponsored by the Interparliamentary Union and the Centre for Human Rights, is tentatively scheduled to take place in Budapest, in May 1993;

(v) Pacific Region Religious Liberty Conference: Freedom of Religion: Basis for Peace and National Development (Suva, 7-10 June 1993). The Conference is co-sponsored by the International Religious Liberty Association and the South Pacific Division of Seventh-day Adventists.

5. The Centre for Human Rights will inform the Preparatory Committee of any additional initiatives aiming at holding meetings which may further contribute to the preparatory process leading to the World Conference, as soon as the details are available.

- - - - -